

Summit Overview

Welcome to the 2005 National Indian Housing Summit. We hope this Summit will provide you with ideas and strategies that will be useful to you and your home communities. This document provides an overview of the Summit goals, objectives, and activities—detailed information can be found throughout this Notebook and the compact disk (CD) that accompanies it.

Summit Goals and Objectives. The Theme of the National Summit is “Sharing solutions and innovative approaches.” The Summit builds on strategies and action plans developed in the six Regional Housing Summits conducted in 2004. These Regional Summits focused on local solutions and strategies to expand affordable housing in Indian Country. Using the Regional Summits as a springboard, the National Summit offers:

- Demonstrated applications of best practices, model approaches, and successful programs
- Innovative approaches to housing, community, and economic development
- Speakers and experts in housing and related areas.

Trade Show. In addition, the Summit includes a Trade Show featuring exhibitors and vendors with experience and expertise in many areas pertaining to housing, community, and economic development including energy-efficient construction materials and methods, finance, architecture and design, community planning, infrastructure development, information systems, mapping, wealth creation, and legal and policy issues. Many Summit events (e.g., the Reception and Grand Entry on Monday evening) take place in or around the Trade Show area to encourage communication and interaction among the exhibitors, vendors, and others attending the Summit.

A wide range of stakeholders in Indian housing and development volunteered to serve on Summit Planning committees. For example, the Breakout Committee identified model programs and programs and groups with innovative approaches in six of the seven Summit themes: (1—Emerging Approaches to Leveraging Financing to Access Alternative Resources; 2—Strategic Planning Models of Comprehensive Planning For Tribal Communities; 3—Innovations in Housing Development; 4—Housing Organization of the Future; 5—Asset-Building and Financial Education Strategies; and 6—Designing and Building Healthy Communities). A seventh track focuses on Performance Planning, Evaluating and Tracking—Integration of the Indian Housing Plan with the Annual Performance Report and learning the essentials of the performance tracking database.

Reception. The Summit gets a rousing “kick off” with a reception with Darrel Crawford, serving as master of ceremonies—a time to meet old friends, make new ones, and to get a sense of the exhibitors and vendors at the Trade Show as the reception is held in the Trade Show area. Registration opens at noon on Monday (9/19) so you can pick up your badge and Summit materials prior to the reception.

Summit Materials. Each person registering receives a Notebook containing the Summit Agenda and related information, PowerPoint and other “Handouts” for the Breakout sessions, and a Summit CD. The CD contains information submitted 1 week before the Summit began (September 12); so, activities and events occurring after that date are not included in the CD. The CD contains automated files (often in Adobe Acrobat [PDF] format) corresponding to much of the information printed in the Summit Notebook. For example, the CD contains the complete PowerPoint files submitted by presenters, a listing of Summit registrants (including presenters, exhibitors, and vendors), and photographs (generally “jpg” files) of Indian country housing and community development projects).

General Sessions. Each morning, the Summit will begin with a call to order—the opening ceremonies take place on Tuesday. After some planning and organizational activities, each morning will feature a keynote speaker. The keynote speakers include Paula O. Blunt, General Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and Tex Hall, President, National Congress of American Indians and Chairman, Three Affiliated Tribes of Fort Berthold.

Breakout Sessions. The Summit is organized to encourage active participation—each morning, Breakout session facilitators will present and/or introduce presenters who will give a “preview” describing the focus of that day’s breakout sessions. With this information (and that provided in the Summit agenda), you can select the Breakout sessions that are of greatest interest to you.

The breakout sessions will feature one or more presenters who will describe model programs and/or innovative approaches. Ample time has been set aside to allow discussion, questions, and answers. You are encouraged to discuss aspects of presentations that are unclear, to seek input on how you might apply the ideas and principles in your community. A facilitator will be present at each breakout session to introduce the presenters, help them adhere to the schedule, and ensure that everyone has an opportunity to ask questions and participate in the discussions. In addition, ONAP staff will help record the major discussion points on flip charts.

